

**Notice of Exemption**

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**To:**

Office of Planning and Research  
 For U.S. Mail:  
 P.O. Box 3044  
 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

**From:**

California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
 Bay Delta Region  
 2825 Cordelia Road, Ste 100  
 Fairfield, CA 94534

**Street Address:**

1400 Tenth Street  
 Sacramento, CA 95814

**Project Title:** Upper Sonoma Creek Restoration Demonstration Project (Request No. 1652-2022-054-001-R3)

**Project Applicant:** Richard Dale, Sonoma Ecology Center

**Project Location:** The Demonstration Project is located on the Upper Sonoma Creek within the Morton's Warm Springs property in the unincorporated Sonoma Valley, Sonoma County, California. The project site address is 1651 Warm Springs Road (Latitude 38.392928°, Longitude -122.551130°). Sonoma Creek watershed drains into the San Pablo Bay of the San Francisco Bay Estuary in Northern California.

**Project Description:** Pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1652, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife has approved the Upper Sonoma Creek Restoration Demonstration Project submitted by Richard Dale, Sonoma Ecology Center.

The Project will restore habitat for steelhead in upper Sonoma Creek, with a focus on winter high flow refugia and reducing bed scour, identified as limiting factors for steelhead recovery in this watershed. The Project will remove an existing rock wall and picnic area, lower floodplain benches, install bank stabilization measures using brush mat and live pole plantings, install large wood habitat elements, and includes erosion control and native plant revegetation measures.

**Public Agency Approving Project:** California Department of Fish and Wildlife

**Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project:** Richard Dale, Sonoma Ecology Center

**Exempt Status:**

Categorical Exemption. Type – Class 33 California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15333

**Reasons why project is exempt:** Class 33 consists of small projects not to exceed 5 acres in size to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of habitat for fish, plants, or wildlife.

**CDFW Contact Person:** Mitsuko Grube, Environmental Scientist, [mitsuko.grube@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:mitsuko.grube@wildlife.ca.gov)

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*Erin Chappell*  
 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Date: 12/19/2022

Erin Chappell, Regional Manager  
 Region 3, Bay Delta Region

Date received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_